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The Art Union.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

THE AMERICAN ART UNION.

The American Art Union, a society of American artists, including representatives of all the different schools of art, has been organized "for the general advancement of the Fine Arts, and for promoting and facilitating a greater knowledge and love thereof on the part of the public." To accomplish this, the society proposes :

1st. To maintain in the City of New York a permanent exhibition and sales-room for selected American works of art, and to hold occasional similar exhibitions in the chief cities of the country ;

2d. To publish original etchings and engravings of the highest grade ;

3d. To issue an illustrated monthly art journal, of which a leading feature will be the contributions of the artist members, both in the form of papers and illustrations ;

4th. To purchase for the annual subscribers to the UNION original works of art, which will be selected by a committee of artists, and disposed of at the close of each year as the subscribers themselves may desire.

MEMBERS.

Nearly all of the leading artists of the country, representing the various schools, are enrolled among the active members of the Art Union, and its President and Vice-President hold similar offices in the National Academy of Design. The Honorary Membership includes some of the most distinguished amateurs and friends of Art in the country. A full list of the members is published in the January number of THE ART UNION.

The Board of Control of the Art Union for 1884-5 consists of :

D. HUNTINGTON, <i>President.</i>	T. W. WOOD, <i>Vice President.</i>	
E. WOOD PERRY, JR., <i>Secretary.</i>	FREDERICK DIELMAN, <i>Treasurer.</i>	
W. H. BEARD,	HENRY FARRER,	ALBERT BIERSTADT,
EASTMAN JOHNSON,	THOMAS MORAN,	JERVIS M'ENTEE,
GEO. H. STORY,	WALTER SHIRLAW.	

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE ART UNION.

Upon the payment of the sum of five dollars, any person may become a subscriber to the AMERICAN ART UNION for one year, and will receive for such payment:

FIRST: A season ticket to the permanent Exhibition of Paintings, at the society's Gallery, No. 44 East Fourteenth Street, Union Square, New York City ;

SECOND: A proof before letters, on India paper, of the etching of the year, by Walter Shirlaw, from Eastman Johnson's picture "The Reprimand." This etching is mounted upon heavy plate paper, and is of a size (13x16

inches) and quality such as the leading dealers sell at from twenty to twenty-five dollars ;

THIRD: The illustrated ART UNION, which will be issued monthly, for the current year. (The price of the journal to non-subscribers will be \$3.00 a year.)

FOURTH: An interest in works of art purchased by the Art Union. One-half of the subscription will be set apart for the formation of a fund, to be expended for the joint account of the subscribers in the purchase of works of art, which will be held in trust until the end of the year, when they will be delivered unconditionally to the whole body of the subscribers, represented by a committee. This committee will then make such disposition of the works as may be determined by the majority of the subscribers, each of whom will be entitled to send in one vote as to the manner of disposal.

There are several feasible ways in which to dispose of the purchased works.

They may be sold at auction or private sale, or at an auction which will be attended only by subscribers, and the proceeds divided equally among all the subscribers ; or they may be divided among the bodies of subscribers of the several States, each one to receive its quota according to the amount of the subscriptions from such State. The several state committees may then dispose of the works in one of the aforementioned methods, or present them to form nuclei of new public art galleries, or additions to some already in existence. Or they may be distributed among the subscribers by lot.

In enumerating these various methods of disposition, the American Art Union expresses no preference of one above another ; its desire and interest are only that the disposition of the collection shall be equitable and satisfactory to all concerned.

No exorbitant prices will be paid to the artists, but such only as are generally obtained at the studios for a similar class of work, and the prices to the subscribers will be exactly those paid to the artists.

The latent taste for art that has existed in the country has been developed in a wonderful degree during the past twenty years, until there is scarcely to be found a home in any section that does not contain some form of art production. It is believed by the projectors of the American Art Union that the time is at hand for such an enterprise, and that the lovers of art will be eager to avail themselves of its benefits.

Honorary Secretaries, to receive subscriptions, will be appointed from time to time in various parts in the country. Money may also be sent by postal or express order, Bank Check or Draft or Registered Letter, payable to the *American Art Union*, No. 44 East 14th Street, New York.

Any person sending a club of twenty subscriptions to the Art Union, will receive an additional subscription free of charge. Specimen copies of the illustrated ART UNION journal will be sent post-paid on application.

By order of the Board of Control,

E. WOOD PERRY, JR., Secretary.